

July 29, 2011

Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

Grow North Regional Economic Development Corporation is pleased to provide this letter in support of AT&T and their efforts to expand broadband coverage and the positive impact this would have on the northern region of Wisconsin.

Grow North's role is to support our five-county region of Wisconsin, including the promotion and development of businesses, jobs and improved infrastructure. The Grow North region is primarily rural and underserved in terms of coverage and speed for all types of broadband technology. All solutions to improve infrastructure will help promote a better environment for businesses and tourism and will help improve the overall economic climate in our region.

As we move forward with strategic planning for our organization, we understand the critical importance of expanded wireless broadband coverage to our citizens and businesses. In fact, in a formal process to determine needs in the region, broadband coverage emerged as the number one infrastructure issue across the entire region.

Grow North will follow the progress of AT&T with great interest. Our hope is that with a successful merger, AT&T will be able to implement the improvements proposed for northern Wisconsin, including the Grow North region.

Sincerely,



Joe Hegge, Director



Jim Brown, President
Board of Directors